

House Resolution 27 - Introduced

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 27

BY ISENHART, THEDE, OURTH, JACOBY, McKEAN, STAED,
FORBES, BENNETT, KRESSIG, DONAHUE, KURTZ, KURTH,
KACENA, GASKILL, HUNTER, MASCHER, ANDERSON,
WINCKLER, LENSING, COHOON, WOLFE, WILLIAMS,
STECKMAN, McCONKEY, JAMES, OLSON, SUNDE, DERRY,
MATSON, WESSEL-KROESCHELL, BROWN-POWERS, HEDDENS,
GAINES, EHLERT, KONFRST, B. MEYER, OLDSON, and HALL

1 A Resolution of the Iowa General Assembly, on the
2 occasion of Earth Day, 2019, recognizing the threat
3 of climate change and committing to necessary
4 and appropriate legislative action to improve
5 air quality, combat climate change, mitigate its
6 effects, and position our economy for sustainable
7 growth and job creation.

8 WHEREAS, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate
9 Change has found that warming of the global climate
10 system is "unequivocal"; and

11 WHEREAS, there is "no convincing alternative
12 explanation" for changes in the climate other than
13 "human activities, especially emissions of greenhouse
14 gases" based on the most recent findings of the U.S.
15 Global Change Research Program; and

16 WHEREAS, research shows that climate change has
17 a demonstrated impact on human health and safety,
18 including more natural disasters and greater extreme
19 weather, causing damage to the Earth's ecosystems,
20 social systems, and infrastructure; increased
21 risks of disease; as well as expanded range and
22 distribution of disease-carrying insects; all with

1 the potential to prompt mass human migrations and
2 political destabilization that can threaten national
3 security; and

4 WHEREAS, the United States economy will decrease by
5 10 percent by the end of the 21st century according to
6 the U.S. Global Change Research Program, if significant
7 steps are not taken to address and reduce atmospheric
8 warming; and

9 WHEREAS, Iowa would be particularly impacted by crop
10 failures, disruptions in supply chains, and a reduction
11 in agricultural yields due to rising temperatures,
12 severe weather, flooding, extreme heat, wildfires, and
13 drought; and

14 WHEREAS, Iowa, producing the most corn and soybeans
15 in the United States, could experience a 25 percent
16 reduction in yields by the middle of the 21st century,
17 a severe threat to the state's economy; and

18 WHEREAS, since 2011, research scientists and
19 educators from virtually every college and university
20 in Iowa have produced or signed on to eight annual
21 statements calling attention to climate impacts
22 on the health of Iowans, the threat of increasing
23 humidity, the dangers of drought, the multiple
24 benefits of climate-smart agriculture, as well as
25 designing buildings and communities for the future; NOW
26 THEREFORE,

27 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, That
28 the United States Congress, Iowa General Assembly, and
29 the Governor of Iowa commit to taking necessary and
30 appropriate steps to mitigate and prevent the impacts

1 of climate change; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Iowa General
3 Assembly is committed to enacting state climate policy
4 to plan for and achieve reduction in greenhouse gas
5 emissions through a legislative climate action plan
6 to meet these goals, as well as to advance a robust,
7 sustainable economy marked by the expansion of green,
8 clean energy jobs; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Iowa General
10 Assembly is committed to establishing ambitious
11 clean renewable energy goals, timelines, incentives,
12 measurements, and public reporting; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Iowa General
14 Assembly is committed to increasing energy efficiency
15 by setting targets for energy producers and users to
16 reduce costs and prevent energy waste; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Iowa General
18 Assembly encourages educational institutions,
19 public jurisdictions, and other entities to provide
20 critical research, educate the public, and engage in
21 collaborative projects to achieve net zero greenhouse
22 gas emissions as well as to support families and
23 individuals in taking personal responsibility by
24 developing climate-aware lifestyles, habits, and
25 practices.